

Message Text

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ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 COME-00 AGR-01 CG-00 DOTE-00
DLOS-09 EB-08 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03
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R 161355Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 072

UNCLAS LAGOS 10156

PASS NMFS - KRAVANJA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, EINV, NI
SUBJECT: FISHERIES: PROBLEMS OF US SHRIMP FIRMS IN NIGERIA

1. MR. A RONOLD FAGEN, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF WEST AFRICAN SHRIMPS LIMITED VISITED EMBASSY ON AUGUST 16, 1978 TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEMS HIS COMPANY FACES IN THEIR NIGERIAN OPERATIONS. HIS BIGGEST PROBLEM WAS THE WHIGH DUTIES (30 - 40 PERCENT) ON THE FISHING EQUIPMENT HE USES. MR. FAGEN SAID HE THOUGHT HIS ENDEAVOR TO PROVIDE FOOD SHOULD QUALIFY HIS FISHING ENTERPRISE FOR A LOWER DUTY ASSESSEMENT, AS WAA DONE WITH AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT. HE SAID HIS FIRM HAS NIGERIAN STOCKHOLDERS, USES A MIXED AMERICN-NIGERIAN CREW, AND HAS A PROCESSING PLANT IN SAPQELE. IN SHORT, HE BELIEVES HE IS CONTRIBUTING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NIGERIAN ECONOMY BUT IS BEING PENALIZED FOR IT. FURTHER, HE SAID THAT HE IS REQUIRED TO PAY A 5 PERCENT IMPORT DUTY ON HIS FISH CATCH EVEN THOUGH IT IS CAUGHT IN NIGERIAN WATERS.

2. MR. FAGEN PLANS TO JOIN WITH OTHER COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN AND APPEAL TO THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (FISHERIES) FOR A LOWER CUSTOMS DUTY ON FISHING EQUIPMENT. THE
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PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT TO THE EMBASSY WAS TO LET US KNOW ABOUT HIS PROBLEMS AND PLANS IN THE FISHING BUSINESS.
WYMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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